

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-16 EUR-25 NEA-14 RSC-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07

PA-04 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 FRB-03 OMB-01 TAR-02

SWF-02 AGR-20 AID-20 COME-00 EB-11 LAB-06 OIC-04

SIL-01 STR-08 TRSE-00 CIEP-02 CEA-02 FEA-02 ACDA-19

DRC-01 /270 W

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R 190839Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5365

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USLO PEKING

CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 MANILA 8643

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UN, RP

SUBJECT: NON-ALIGNED ACTIVITIES IN INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

REF: A. STATE 099106

B. SINGAPORE 2394

BEGIN SUMMARY: THOUGH IN PAST GOP CONSIDERED FAIRLY
SAFE VOTE ON MAJOR UN ISSUES, IMPORTANT PRESSURES NOW

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MAKE IT LIKELY GOP WILL FOLLOW TREND TOWARDS SOMEWHAT

CLOSER IDENTIFICATION WITH NACG AND G-77 POSITIONS. SUCH PRESSURES INCLUDE LOOSENING TIES WITH U.S., INCREASING SENSE OF ASIANNES, GROWING ROLE ASEAN IN GOP FOREIGN POLICY CONSIDERATIONS, CONTINUING MUSLIM PROBLEM IN SOUTHERN PHILS, AND CONCERN OVER POSSIBLE CURTAILMENT OF PHIL OIL SUPPLIES FROM ARAB OPEC COUNTRIES. WHILE GOP LIKELY CONTINUE RESPONSIVE TO US APPROACHES ON SELECTED ISSUES, BETTER POSSIBILITY ACHIEVE OVERALL IMPROVEMENT GOP STANCE ON THIRD WORLD ISSUES PROBABLY LIES IN BROADER EFFORT CONVINCE LDC'S GENERALLY THAT CURRENT TRENDS IN INTERNATIONAL FORA UNNECESSARY AND UNWISE. EVEN MORE IMPORTANT, HOWEVER, WOULD SEEM TO BE SOME PLAIN TALK IN UN CIRCLES ON THE DANGER OF RECENT TRENDS. END SUMMARY.

1. THOUGH NOT A MEMBER OF NACG AND GENERALLY CONSIDERED BY US AS FAIRLY SAFE VOTE ON MAJOR POLITICAL ISSUES IN UNGA IN PAST, THERE ARE IMPORTANT PRESSURES FORCING GOP IN DIRECTION OF MORE EXTREME POSITIONS ON MATTERS OF INTEREST TO LDC BLOCS. IN PART THIS IS SIMPLY REFLECTION LOOSENING TIES WITH US AS GOP INCREASINGLY SEEKS FOLLOW INDEPENDENT FOREIGN POLICY PATH. NATION WHICH ONCE SAW ITS ROLE AS BRIDGE BETWEEN EAST AND WEST, NOW STRESSES ITS "ASIANNES". THIS EXPRESSES ITSELF IN MUCH EMPHASIS IN OFFICIAL PROPAGANDA ON ASEAN'S IMPORTANCE AND THE GOP'S COMMITMENT TO ASEAN'S FURTHER DEVELOPMENT, BOTH AS AN ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL ENTITY. PHILIPPINES ROLE IN ASEAN CAN BE EXPECTED TO PLAY AN INCREASINGLY IMPORTANT PART IN FORMULATION OF GOP FOREIGN POLICY.

2. ANOTHER SERIOUS PRESSURE ON GOP TO ACCOMMODATE THIRD WORLD POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC INITIATIVES, PARTICULARLY THOSE ESPOUSED BY ARAB NATIONS, IS CONTINUING MULIM INSURGENCY IN SOUTH. INSURGENCY IS A DRAIN ON AFP MEN AND MATERIEL RESOURCES BUT SEEMS UNLIKELY TO BE SETTLED THROUGH FORCE. IN ANY CASE, HEIGHTENED EFFORT TO DO SO COULD EASILY CREATE REPERCUSSIONS ON AVAILABILITIES OF FUEL OIL SUPPLIES FROM ARAB OPEC COUNTRIES WITH DISASTROUS EFFECTS ON PHIL ECONOMY. CONFIDENTIAL

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THIS CONTINUING PROBLEM HAS CREATED A STATE OF AFFAIRS IN WHICH ARAB AND MUSLIM GOODWILL IS HIGH PRIORITY OBJECTIVE PHIL FOREIGN POLICY. THIS WAS REFLECTED MOST RADICALLY IN DRAMATIC GOP SHIFT IN ITS PRONOUNCEMENTS ON ARAB-ISRAELI CONFLICT BUT UNDOUBTEDLY ALSO PLAYS SIFNIGICANT ROLE IN GOP REACTION TO MORE GENERAL THIRD WORLD ISSUES.

3. FINALLY, DFA OFFICIALS HAVE DESCRIBED TO US THE INCREASINGLY EMOTIONAL CONTEXT IN WHICH THIRD WORLD POSITIONS ARE DEVELOPED, MAKING IT MOST DIFFICULT FOR GOP TO STAND ALOOF. IN RELATED COMMENT, FORMER DFA ASST. SECY. FOR UN AFFAIRS AND NOW DEP. PERM. REP, GOP UN, ALEJANDRO YANGO, ONCE DESCRIBED AN ALMOST ANTI-LOGIC SUBSCRIBED TO BY SOME NACG LEADERS. WITH REPEATED ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES FAILING TO CLOSE GAP BETWEEN RICH AND POOR, FAILURE OF UN DEVELOPMENT DECADE AND CONTINUING POPULATION PRESSURES, LDC'S FIND THEMSELVES WITH PROSPECT EVER MORE INTRACTABLE PROBLEMS. IN FACE SUCH DIFFICULTIES AND DISAPPOINTMENTS, NORMAL LOGIC OF INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC RELATIONS BECOMES, IN LDC EYES, DEVELOPED COUNTRY DEVICE FOR MAINTAINING STATUS QUO. WHILE NOT ENDORSING THIS ARGUMENT, YANGO RECOGNIZED ITS EMOTIONAL FORCE. IN THIS CONNECTION WE AGREE WITH BANGKOK'S COMMENT THAT LDC PERCEPTIONS OF OUTCOME OF LOS CONFERENCE WILL HAVE IMPORTANT EFFECT ON THEIR FUTURE TACTICS IN INTERNATIONAL FORUMS.

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 MANILA 8643

4. GOP CONTINUES HAVE MAJOR MUTUAL SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS WITH US WHICH IT VALUES. HOWEVER, MARCOS HAS RELATIVELY GOOD PRACTICAL GRASP OF INTERNATIONAL REALITIES. IT PROBABLE HE DEEMS IT POSSIBLE THAT GOP CAN SLIDE TOWARD POSITIONS ON THIRD WORLD ISSUES CLOSER THOSE HELD BY NACG AND G-77 AND NOT JEOPARDIZE BASIC US-GOP ARRANGEMENTS. FOR EXAMPLE, GOP HAS SHOWN ITSELF WILLING AT LEAST CONSIDER VARIOUS COMPROMISE FORMULA ON POLITICAL ISSUES, SUCH AS PRG REPRESENTATION QUESTIONS WHICH HAVE COME UP RECENTLY. EVEN WHERE GOP VOTES WITH US, IT IS CAREFUL NOT GET OUT IN FRONT OF ASIAN NEIGHBORS
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LEST GOP BE CONSIDERED FRONT FOR US FOREIGN POLICY IN ASEAN.

5. GOP HAS BEEN AND WILL PROBABLY CONTINUE TO BE GENERALLY RESPONSIVE TO SELECTIVE EMBASSY APPROACHES ON UN MATTERS. IF GOP PERCEPTIONS OF THESE PROBLEMS REMAIN UNCHANGED, HOWEVER, REPEATED APPROACHES ON LESSER ISSUES LIKELY BECOME SHOPWORN AND LESS EFFECTIVE. MORE IMPORTANTLY, GENERAL EFFORTS EXERCISE LEVERAGE IN SUCH MATTERS AS AID LEVELS IN ORDER ACHIEVE MORE ACCEPTABLE UN VOTING RECORD COULD EASILY PROVE COUNTER-PRODUCTIVE WHILE DAMAGING OTHER EXTREMELY IMPORTANT US INTERESTS IN PHILIPPINES. GOP BELIEVES, WITH SOME JUSTIFICATION, MOST SUCH BENEFITS CONFERRED ON GOP BY US FULLY RECIPROCATED BY BASE RIGHTS AND OTHER BENEFITS GRANTED BY GOP. BETTER POSSIBILITY ACHIEVE OVERALL CHANGE OF OUTLOOK ON PART OF GOP LIES IN BROADER EFFORT CONVINCE LDC'S GENERALLY THAT CURRENT TRENDS IN INTERNATIONAL FORA UNNECESSARY AND UNWISE. THUS, WE ENDORSE SINGAPORE'S EMPHASIS ON THE NEED TO DEVELOP HIGHER LEVEL DEPARTMENTAL ATTENTION TO US-LDC ECONOMIC RELATIONSHIPS AND TO DEVELOP POSITIVE INITIATIVES ON ISSUES WHICH LDC'S CONSIDER VITAL. AS PART OF SUCH AN EFFORT, WE BELIEVE MORE COMPREHENSIVE REGULAR AND HIGHER LEVEL BILATEAL CONSULTATIONS WITH LDC'S ON UN MATTERS MIGHT BE HELPFUL, IF ACCOMPANIED BY REEXAMINATION OUR OWN POLICY AND IF CONDUCTED AS TRUE CONSULTATIONS. EVEN MORE IMPORTANT, HOWEVER, WOULD SEEM TO BE SOME PLAIN TALK IN UN CIRCLES ON THE DANGER OF RECENT TRENDS TO

AN INSTITUTION WHICH MOST LDC'S CONSIDER VITALLY
IMPORTANT TO THE ACHIEVEMENT OF THEIR OWN INTERESTS.
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